

## Message Text

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72

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 262006Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9962

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5120

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CI, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT OF AMBASSADOR HEITMANN

1. SUMMARY: FONOFF SOURCE INDICATES CHILEAN AMBASSADOR  
IN WASHINGTON MAY BE REPLACED. END SUMMARY.

2. MIDDLE-LEVEL FONMIN OFFICIAL IN RECENT DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF  
SAID FOREIGN MINISTER VERY UNHAPPY WITH PERFORMANCE AMBASSADOR  
HEITMANN AND THAT SEARCH NOW GOING ON FOR HEITMANN'S REPLACEMENT.  
FONMIN OFFICIAL MENTIONED ORLANDO SAENZ AND HERNAN CUBILLOS AS TWO  
POSSIBLE CANDIDATES. (SAENZ WAS FORMERLY HEAD OF CHILEAN MANUFACTURERS

ASSOCIATION AND ECONOMIC ADVISER TO FOREIGN MINISTER; CUBILLOS WAS  
FORMERLY MANAGER OF EDWARDS INTERESTS IN CHILE INCLUDING LEADING DAILY

EL MERCURIO DURING ALLENDE YEARS. HE BECAME INDEPENDENT BUSINESS-  
MAN AFTER BREAK IN EARLY 1974 WITH AGUSTIN EDWARDS.)

3; FONMIN OFFICIAL ASKED FOR EMBOFF'S INFORMAL REACTION, AND  
WHETHER EMBASSY HAD ANY SUGGESTIONS. EMBOFF DECLINED TO COMMENT,  
SAYING THIS WAS ENTIRELY INTERNAL GOC MATTER, BUT DID OFFER PERSONAL  
OPINION THAT NAMING OF A CIVILIAN MIGHT HAVE POSITIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS

EFFECT IN U.S. SOURCE MENTIONED THAT CARMEN PUELMA, CHILEAN  
EMBASSY PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, WOULD ALSO BE REPLACED SOON.  
TOMAS AMENABAR, PRESENTLY CHIEF OF CABINET TO FONMIN, HAS BEEN  
SELECTED TO BECOME EMBASSY'S NUMBER THREE AND THIS WILL BE ANNOUNCED  
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WITHIN WEEK OR TWO.

4. COMMENT: WHILE WE HAVE HEARD MANY REPORTS FROM CHILEAN SOURCES OF DISSATISFACTION WITH HEITMANN'S PERFORMANCE, IT WILL NOT BE FONMIN WHICH DECIDES ON HIS REPLACEMENT. HE IS AIR FORCE GENERAL, AND AS THIS GOVERNMENT NOW OPERATES HIS SERVICE WILL BE CLOSELY INVOLVED IN ANY CHANGE. FROM OTHER SOURCES WE HAVE HEARD HEITMANN WOULD BE REPLACED BY END OF YEAR.

POPPER

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## Message Attributes

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